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HISTORY

We in Alberta are proud of our tradition of welcoming newcomers. Every cultural group has moved here from another place, with our Native Indians having been here beyond the span of our written history.

Each group has had to make its adjustments and sometimes has faced resistance from those who were here before; but overall, we can take pride in Alberta's tradition of openness.

The past decade has been one of achievement, as the Government of Alberta sought to encourage the diversity of cultural expression.

1972

- Alberta Government issued "Position Paper #7 — Alberta's Cultural Heritage"

  This position paper established the following:
  Alberta Cultural Heritage Council
  Heritage Magazine
  Cultural Heritage Branch
- Alberta Bill of Rights
- Individual's Rights Protection Act

1974

- Alberta Heritage Day Act

1978

- Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation established

1981

- "New Policy Directions on Cultural Diversity in Alberta" Recommendations submitted by the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council to the Minister of Culture.
- Endorsement by Alberta of Section 27 in the Canadian Charter of Rights, which deals with "the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians".

1983

- Establishment of the "Cabinet Committee on Cultural Diversity", announced by Premier Lougheed on October 25, 1983.

1984

- Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation receives triple its 1983 level of funding, based on a new distribution formula for lottery funds.
- Alberta Cultural Heritage Act

A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF ALBERTANS

Alberta's people possess a diversity of cultural backgrounds from which they have nurtured the best of traditions. This rich inheritance has become a profound feature of our lives that strengthens the identity of our people. The Government of Alberta reaffirms its commitment to the Cultural Heritage of Albertans and declares the following:

Statement of Principles

- We believe that commitment to a Cultural Heritage policy instills Albertans with an increasing pride and identity as a people, and with a unity of purpose in our province.
- Respect for our Cultural Heritage is a profound feature of Canadian life that distinguishes Canada from other nations.
- Within Canada, Alberta is a strong leader in cultural expression and Albertans recognize this fundamental need of people. Much of the richness of our life in Alberta is the result of the diversity of the peoples who live in our province.
- Loyalty to our country and province is strengthened by respect for Cultural Heritage. Our ethno-cultural communities are proud to be Canadian, and share the fulfillment of the Canadian experience we are all helping to shape.
- Cultural Heritage is a broad experience, where there is willing acceptance of different cultural expressions in everyday life and where individuals can enjoy community participation associated with their Cultural Heritage.
- The presence of many cultures in Alberta provides an opportunity to develop special relationships all over the world, relationships of enduring benefit.
- Culture must be an expression that comes from groups and individual citizens. Thousands of volunteers within Alberta's ethno-cultural communities generate much initiative and cultural activity. Fostering an environment for the expression of Cultural Heritage is an important and useful role for government.
- We are committed to an Alberta where each of us is able to benefit from the Cultural Heritage of others. We intend the diversity of cultural expression to be enhanced in the years ahead for the benefit of the young Albertans of tomorrow.
- Greater appreciation for the Cultural Heritage of others promotes tolerance and understanding in our province.

NEW INITIATIVES

The new initiatives in support of Cultural Heritage in Alberta build upon the accomplishments of the past and establish new directions for the future.

Cabinet Committee on Cultural Heritage

The Government of Alberta reaffirms the Cabinet Committee on Cultural Heritage as a permanent Committee of the Executive Council. The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that Cultural Heritage is recognized and respected in Alberta in the development of related government policies.

Membership of the Committee is made up of the:

- Minister of Culture (Chairman)
- Attorney General
- Minister of Advanced Education
- Minister of Education
- Minister of Labour
- Minister of Manpower
- Caucus Chairmen (Edmonton and Calgary)

and any other member of the Legislative Assembly deemed necessary by the Chairman.

Cultural Heritage Division

A new Cultural Heritage Division headed by an Assistant Deputy Minister is being established in the Department of Culture. This Division's mandate will be guided by the objectives of the Alberta Cultural Heritage Act.

The purposes of the Cultural Heritage Division will be:

- to recognize and endorse the Cultural Heritage of Alberta;
- to encourage the preservation, enhancement and development of artistic, historical and language resources by ethno-cultural groups in Alberta;
- to encourage ethno-cultural groups in Alberta to share their traditions with others;
- to foster circumstances under which the Cultural Heritage of Alberta is treated as a positive factor in economic, social, artistic and educational development.

Interdepartmental Relationships

The foregoing purposes of the Cultural Heritage Division identify programming areas that interrelate with other Government departments. The following defines the role of the Division in these areas.

Artistic

The Cultural Heritage Division will work with groups and individuals that engage in art forms for the purpose of preserving, enhancing and sharing their ethno-cultural identity.

Historical

The Cultural Heritage Division will work with groups and individuals wishing to produce materials that inform the public of their history and contribution to the province.

Heritage Languages

The Cultural Heritage Division will continue to support the teaching and learning of languages by assisting ethno-cultural organizations operating Heritage Language Schools outside of the public and separate school systems. The focus will be on providing services to improve the quality of teaching, the degree of student fluency and the provision of Alberta based teaching resources. Liaison with Alberta Education will be maintained.

Economic

The Cultural Heritage Division in conjunction with ethno-cultural communities will continue to support the initiatives of the Alberta Government in export marketing activities for Alberta agricultural and industrial products and services.

The Cultural Heritage Division will cooperate with Alberta Tourism and Small Business to further the tourism potential of the annual Alberta Heritage Day Festivals held throughout the province. This Division will also support the further development and marketing of small Alberta businesses specializing in heritage products.

Education

The Cultural Heritage Division will work with public agencies and institutions in the area of multicultural education and training. The focus will be to encourage agencies to reflect the principles of Cultural Heritage in their programs and services. Liaison with the Alberta Human Rights Commission and the Departments of Manpower, Education and Advanced Education will be maintained.

Social

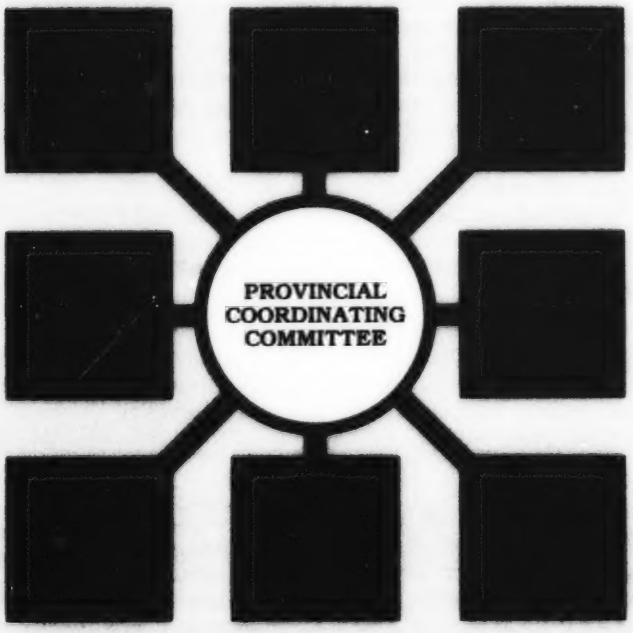
The Cultural Heritage Division will continue to encourage the efforts of voluntary community organizations to promote tolerance, understanding and equality of opportunities for all Albertans.

Alberta Cultural Heritage Council

The Government of Alberta acknowledges the valuable role played by the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council over the past decade and seeks to encourage even greater representation and participation of cultural communities throughout the province. This will be accomplished by restructuring the Council to include eight Regional Councils and a Provincial Coordinating Committee.

The Council will advise the Government, through the Minister of Culture, on all matters relating to the objectives of the Alberta Cultural Heritage Act.

The new structure of the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council will be:



ALBERTA CULTURAL HERITAGE COUNCIL

Alberta Cultural Heritage Council Membership

- **Regional Councils**

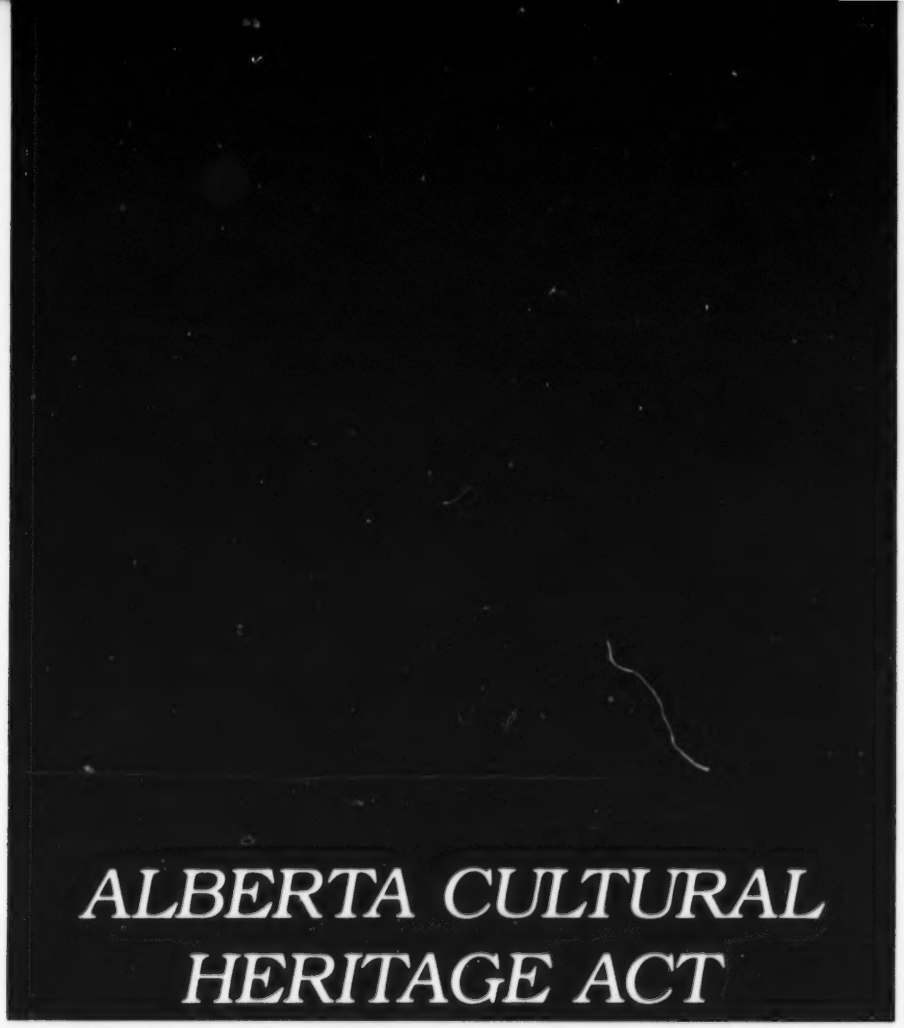
  Membership on each Council will be for a 2-year term and will include:
  - 1 representative elected by each ethno-cultural group in the region;
  - representatives elected by voluntary organizations working in the Cultural Heritage area (the number of representatives from this category will not exceed 33 per cent of the number of elected ethno-cultural representatives);
  - Ministerial appointees;
  - 1 staff member from the Cultural Heritage Division (ex-officio).

- **Provincial Coordinating Committee**

  Membership on the Provincial Coordinating Committee will include:
  - the Chairman or designate from each of the following regions — Fort McMurray and District, Lakeland, Peace River, Central Alberta, Southwestern and Southeastern Alberta;
  - the Chairman or designate and 2 members from each of Calgary and District and Edmonton and District;
  - Ministerial appointees;
  - Chairman of the Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation (ex-officio);
  - Assistant Deputy Minister - Cultural Heritage Division (ex-officio).

Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation

In recognition of the significant accomplishments of the Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation, the Government, earlier this year endorsed an increase in lottery revenues to the Foundation from the Western Canada Lottery (Alberta Division). This allows greater opportunities for organizations and persons to participate in the preservation, development and promotion of the Cultural Heritage of Alberta.



ALBERTA CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT

WHEREAS the cultural heritage of Alberta is enhanced by the freedom ethno-cultural groups have to express their ethno-cultures and to interact with people of different ethno-cultures; and

WHEREAS it is fit and proper for the Legislature of Alberta to affirm a commitment to a policy that encourages the expression of and recognition of the cultural heritage of Alberta and the contributions made by ethno-cultural groups to that cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS this commitment is intended to encourage in all Albertans an awareness of and appreciation of the cultural heritage of Alberta and a pride in their unity and diversity;

THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

Definitions

1 In this Act,

(a) "Council" means the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council established under this Act;

(b) "Foundation" means the Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation continued under this Act;

(c) "Minister" means the Minister of Culture.

Objectives

2 The objectives of the Foundation and the Cultural Heritage Division of the Department of Culture are as follows:

(a) to encourage respect for the cultural heritage of Alberta;

(b) to promote tolerance and understanding of others through appreciation of the ethno-cultures that make up the cultural heritage of Alberta;

(c) to recognize that the presence of ethno-cultural groups in Alberta provides Albertans with an opportunity to develop relationships with other countries;

(d) to foster an environment in which volunteer groups and individuals can contribute to the cultural heritage of Alberta;

(e) to enhance the cultural heritage of Alberta so that present and future Albertans can benefit from its richness and diversity.

Alberta Heritage Day

3 In recognition of the cultural heritage of Alberta, the first Monday in August in each year shall be observed as a day of public celebration and known as "Alberta Heritage Day".

Council

4(1) There is hereby established the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council consisting of the members appointed under section 5.

(2) The purpose of the Council is to provide advice to the Minister as to how the objectives in section 2 can be achieved.

Membership of Council

5(1) The Council shall consist of the members that are appointed by the Minister.

(2) The Minister may, in making an appointment under this section, prescribe the term of office of the member so appointed.

(3) A majority of members of the Council constitutes a quorum at a meeting of the Council.

Council expenses

6 The Foundation shall pay to the Council an amount approved by the Minister in respect of the expenses incurred by the Council and its members in carrying out its purpose.

By-laws

7(1) The Council, with the consent of the Minister, may make by-laws respecting the conduct of the business and affairs of the Council.

(2) The *Regulations Act* does not apply to the by-laws made by the Council.

Foundation

8(1) The Alberta Cultural Heritage Foundation is continued as a corporation under this Act.

(2) The purpose of the Foundation is to provide persons, groups and organizations with the opportunity to participate in the preservation, development and promotion of the cultural heritage of Alberta.

(3) The Foundation is an agent of the Crown in right of Alberta.

Membership of Foundation

9(1) The Foundation shall consist of the members that are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

(2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall designate 1 of the members of the Foundation as chairman of the Foundation.

(3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may

(a) in making an appointment under this section, prescribe the term of office of the member so appointed, and

(b) in designating a member as chairman of the Foundation, prescribe his term of office as chairman.

(4) A majority of the members of the Foundation constitutes a quorum at a meeting of the Foundation.

(5) The Minister may appoint a person, who may be an employee of the Government whose position is under the administration of the Minister, to be the secretary of the Foundation.

(6) The Minister may prescribe the rate of remuneration and the subsistence and travelling expenses to be paid to the members of the Foundation and, if the secretary of the Foundation is not an employee of the Government, to the secretary.

By-laws

10 The Foundation may, with the approval of the Minister, make by-laws

(a) governing the administration of the Foundation and its funds;

(b) establishing honorary offices that it considers desirable and governing the appointment of persons to those offices;

(c) governing the management of the property of the Foundation;

(d) relating to any other matter necessary for carrying out the purpose and objectives of the Foundation.

Powers of Foundation

11 In addition to the powers it has under any other Act, the Foundation, to further its purpose or objectives, may

(a) acquire real or personal property, whether by purchase, gift, lease, devise, bequest or otherwise;

(b) hold, preserve, maintain, renovate, restore and manage the real and personal property of the Foundation;

(c) enter into agreements with any person respecting any matter pertaining to the purpose or objectives of the Foundation;

(d) engage the services of any persons considered necessary for the operations of the Foundation;

(e) make grants to any person or organization carrying on activities that are within the purpose or objectives of the Foundation;

(f) dispose of any real or personal property by sale or lease or in any other manner;

(g) establish and maintain necessary banking arrangements;

(h) publish, produce and distribute books, pamphlets, films or any other productions that relate to the purpose or objectives of the Foundation;

(i) from time to time borrow money from any person and give security for the repayment of money so borrowed;

(j) conduct fund-raising campaigns or otherwise raise funds in order to carry out the purpose or objectives of the Foundation.

Expenditure of funds

12 The Foundation may disburse, expend or otherwise deal with any portion of its funds for the purpose or objectives of the Foundation and to defray any expenses in connection therewith.

Fiscal year and annual report

13(1) The fiscal year of the Foundation is the period from April 1 to the next following March 31.

(2) After the end of each fiscal year, the Foundation shall prepare and submit to the Minister a report consisting of

(a) a general summary of its transactions and affairs during that year, its revenues and the application of its expenditures during that year,

(b) audited financial statements as required under section 77 of the *Financial Administration Act*, and

(c) any other information that the Minister may require.

(3) On receiving a report under subsection (2), the Minister shall lay a copy of it before the Legislative Assembly if it is then in session, and if not, within 15 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.

Borrowing by Foundation

14 On the recommendation of the Minister, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, from time to time and on any conditions the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers proper, authorize the Provincial Treasurer to guarantee on behalf of the Government the payment of all or any part of any

(a) money borrowed by the Foundation to further its purpose or objectives, or

(b) interest owing on that money,

or both.

Ministerial directions

15 The Minister may give directions to the Foundation for the purpose of

(a) providing priorities and guidelines for it to follow in the exercise of its powers under section 11, and

(b) co-ordinating the work of the Foundation with the programs, policies and work of the Government and of public and private institutions.

Employees

16 The Minister may provide the Council or the Foundation with the services of employees of the Government whose positions are under the administration of the Minister, to carry out secretarial, clerical and accounting duties and other work required by the Council or the Foundation.

Consequential

17 *The Cultural Foundations Act is amended by repealing section 2(1)(a) and (2).*

Repeal

18 *The Alberta Heritage Day Act is repealed.*

In accordance with section 4(1) of the Interpretation Act, this Bill comes into force on the date it receives Royal Assent.